



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: February 3, 2012

SUBJECT: Status of the Beachwalk projects

The purpose of this Letter to Commission is to provide you with the schedules for completion of various segments of the Beachwalk projects (Attachment).

Background

The Beachwalk projects are part of the larger Atlantic Greenway Network (AGN), which is a system of bikeways being designed to promote alternative transportation. They extend in a north/south direction and run between the erosion control line and the dune system. They complement the neighborhood bicycle facilities, which extend in an east-west as well as north-south directions through the south, middle, and north beach neighborhoods. They will connect area business districts, cultural and tourism centers, residential neighborhoods, parking facilities, parks, schools, and the beaches.

At this time, the Beachwalk is complete from:

- South Pointe Park to South Pointe Drive – 1,529 feet
- Lummus Park at 5th Street to 23rd Street – 9,756 feet
- 64th Street to 79th Street where it meets the North Shore Open Space Park Promenade – 9,639 feet

The wood boardwalk extends from 23rd Street to 47th Street – 9,464 feet.

There are two gaps in these beachside paths

- South Pointe Drive to 5th Street – 2,456 feet
- 47th Street to 64th Street – 9,218 feet

Status

The City has several Beachwalk projects underway including Beachwalk II, the Eden Roc/46th Street, and the Mid-Beach Recreational Corridor.

The Beachwalk II Project consists of an on-grade pathway that from South Pointe Drive to 5th Street on the west of the dune system that addresses the first gap in the beachside paths. The conceptual design is similar to the Beachwalk I pathway located between 14th Street and 23rd Street. A major component of this project is coastal dune enhancement, which will include the removal of exotic species, planting of native dune vegetation, and the installation of protective

rope and post around the dunes. The lighting throughout the Beachwalk II will be specially designed for Miami Beach to orient light away from the ocean, and thereby minimize the impact on nesting sea turtles and their hatchlings that can become disoriented by artificial lighting. In addition, the ADA-compliant pathway itself will be designed to accommodate a variety of users including bicyclists, roller bladders, joggers and other user groups.

This project will connect South Pointe Park to the existing serpentine promenade in Lummus Park at 5th Street. In order to expedite the coastal construction control line permitting process, the City split the project into two phases: Phase I (South Pointe Drive to 3rd Street) and Phase II (3rd Street to 5th Street). The City recently received easements from the properties between South Pointe Drive and Ocean Beach Park, which will allow completion of construction plans for Phase I. These finalized construction documents are scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2012. The City will then put the project out to bid in and schedule for construction to start in January 2013. For Phase II, the City anticipates that the construction drawings will be completed by July 2012 and construction will begin after Phase I is completed or upon receipt of easements from the adjacent property owners.

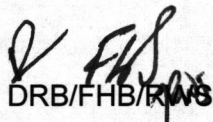
The City is entering into the construction phase of the Eden Roc/46th Street project which will replace a 950-foot section of the boardwalk with an on-grade paver path. This work is anticipated to start in April 2012 and be completed by July 2012. The City is negotiating with hotels and condominiums as they redevelop to include the removal of the adjacent boardwalk and replacement with an at-grade path.

The City has also recently completed negotiations with a consultant to design the Mid-Beach Recreational Corridor from 47th to 64th Street, which will address the second gap in the path. It is anticipated that this design and permitting effort will take 18 to 24 months. Like the Beachwalk II design, this design will also include dune enhancement, removal of exotic vegetation, planting of native vegetation, and turtle friendly lighting. It is likely that the construction will be phased because of the estimated cost of the work, which is approximately \$10 million, which will be funded with MDC CDT Interlocal – CDT/Resort Taxes.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Attachment

Atlantic Greenway Network: Coastal Pathways


DRB/FHB/RWS

Atlantic Greenway Network: Coastal Pathways

